

> Dear Director of NIEHS,
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> We are urging you :
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> Please adopt the new non-animal test methods immediately.
> Please use in-vitro cell cultures as a permanent replacement for
> lethal animal tests. The non-animal test methods have been
> considered for nearly 20 years. However, every year millions upon
> millions of sentient animals are continuously suffering and dying in
> the excruciating pain and agony because of bureaucratic inertia.
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> NIEHS recommends using the non-animal method to set the
> "starting dose" for further animal-poisoning tests. While this is a step
> in the right direction because it may reduce the number of animals
> killed, it does not go far enough. Government agencies should use
> in vitro cell culture tests to completely replace the use of animals
> in lethal dose tests as well as many other painful killing tests and
> torturing the innocent.
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> The typical lethal dose (or LD) test measures the amount of a toxic
> substance that will, in a single dose, kill a certain percentage of
> animals in a test group. "To avoid interference with results"
> No painkillers are administered. Each year, millions of sentient dogs,
> rabbits, rats, monkeys, and other animals die in the excruciating pain
> in lethal dose tests performed in U.S. During the lethal dose test, the
> experimental substance is forced into the animal's throats or is pumped
> into their stomachs by a tube, sometimes causing death by stomach
> rupture or from the sheer bulk of the chemical dosage. The deadly
> substance also are injected under the skin, into a vein, or into the
> peritoneal lining of the abdomen. They are also often applied to
> the eyes, rectum, or vagina, or forcible inhaled through a gas mask.
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> Animal experimentation continually falls short of providing the
> rigorous criteria that define real science - Accuracy, Predictability
> and Applicability. Applying animal data to humans meets none of
> these requirements consistently. Why submit another species to
> pseudo-scientific exploration of human disease when human-based
> methods are available? As Dr. Richard Klausner, the director of
> the National Cancer Institute in the United States said :
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> "The history of cancer research has been a history of curing cancer
> in the mouse.....We have cured mice of cancer for decades--and it
> simply didn't work in humans."
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> The LD50 is slowly being phased out internationally .
> The non-animal, in vitro tests were put through rigorous, international
> scientific scrutiny. They provide much more accurate estimates of
> human toxicity than animal tests:
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> We enclosed some important References at the end of this letter
> for your review. Again, Please use in-vitro cell cultures as a
> permanent replacement for the outdated, very cruel and terrified
> lethal animal tests. Please adopt the new non-animal test methods
> immediately. Please push this most meaningful way of tests which
> is beneficial for humans and animals to every corner of the
> United States. Thanks for your kindness, wisdom and help.
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> Sincerely,
Cathy Prall